

SECRET

C O N T E N T S

(Information as of noon EST, 24 December 69)

Far East

	<u>Page</u>	
THE WEEK IN PERSPECTIVE	1 X	25X1
VIETNAM		
Hanoi has given extensive treatment to recent statements by Defense Minister Giap. In a major new article, Giap indicated that Hanoi's response to the allied Vietnamization program will be an attempt to drag out the war indefinitely.		
SOVIET ATTITUDES TOWARD LAOS	4 X	25X1
Although the Soviets have been active recently in the diplomatic and propaganda spheres on the Lao-tian situation, Soviet policy remains unchanged.		
COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE IN LAOS STILL STALLED		
Casualties are mounting on both sides, however, as the Communists attempt to improve their position in the Plaine des Jarres area and to secure their supply lines.		
THAI-US RELATIONS TAKE ANOTHER THUMPING	8 X	
Thai government leaders have voiced their strongest criticism of the US in several years.		
PEKING SENDS "FOREIGN DEVILS" PACKING		25X1
The release of detained foreigners apparently is motivated by Peking's decision to return to more conventional diplomatic practices.		
		25X1
	7	

SECRET

SECRET

Europe

THE WEEK IN PERSPECTIVE

11 X

USSR SEEKS BETTER ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

12

The regime is programing a recovery of growth in 1970.

IAEA ENTERS NEW ERA

14 X

New obligations are creating pressures for change within the International Atomic Energy Agency.

EAST GERMANS AND POLES REPLY TO BONN'S INITIATIVES

15 X

Pankow has invited Bonn to begin discussions on a stiff East German draft treaty, and Warsaw has accepted Bonn's offer to engage in political talks.

Middle East - Africa

THE WEEK IN PERSPECTIVE

17 X

ARMS DEALS STRENGTHEN FRENCH POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST

18 X

France reportedly has concluded a major arms deal with Libya--at least in principle.

ARABS AND ISRAELIS REAFFIRM THEIR INTRANSIGENCE

19 X

The Arab summit conference in Rabat this past week dealt almost exclusively with Arab military preparations, while the Israelis made a harsh official, public rejection of US proposals for a settlement with Egypt and Jordan.

25X1

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT MADE ON UGANDA PRESIDENT

20

Uganda remains calm following the attack on President Milton Obote last week; the government has taken advantage of the shooting to ban all opposition parties.

SECRET

Western Hemisphere

THE WEEK IN PERSPECTIVE

21 X

25X1

TORRIJOS CONSOLIDATES HIS POSITION IN PANAMA

22

General Torrijos has appointed a new team in the government and the National Guard following last week's coup attempt. He will now probably turn his attention to social and political reform.

CASTRO EVALUATES CUBA'S SUGAR-HARVEST PROGRESS

22

Fidel Castro has expressed optimism that his goal of ten million tons will be achieved, but several factors are likely to cause the harvest to fall as much as two million tons short.

ARGENTINA TO HAVE RESPITE FROM POLITICAL TURMOIL

24

The arrival of Argentina's summer will provide the Ongania government a welcome respite from the political turmoil and violence that have continued sporadically since May.

SECRET